

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 6395

OFFERED BY MRS. LURIA OF VIRGINIA

At the appropriate place in subtitle A of title XVI,
insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 16____. POLICY TO ENSURE LAUNCH OF SMALL-CLASS**
2 **PAYLOADS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a small launch and satellite policy to ensure responsive and reliable access to space through the processing and launch of Department of Defense small-class payloads.

(b) **POLICY.**—The policy under subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, providing resources and policy guidance to sustain—

(1) the availability of small-class payload launch service providers using launch vehicles capable of delivering into space small payloads designated by the Secretary of Defense as a national security payload;

15 (2) a robust small-class payload space launch
16 infrastructure and industrial base;

(3) the availability of rapid, responsive, and reliable space launches for national security space programs to—

1 (A) improve the responsiveness and flexi-
2 bility of a national security space system;

3 (B) lower the costs of launching a national
4 security space system; and

5 (C) maintain risks of mission success at
6 acceptable levels;

7 (4) a minimum number of dedicated launches
8 each year; and

9 (5) full and open competition including small
10 launch providers and rideshare opportunities.

11 (c) ACQUISITION STRATEGY.—The Secretary shall
12 develop and carry out a five-year phased acquisition strat-
13 egy, including near and long term, for the small launch
14 and satellite policy under subsection (a).

15 (d) ELEMENTS.—The acquisition strategy under sub-
16 section (c) shall—

17 (1) provide the necessary—

18 (A) stability in budgeting and acquisition
19 of capabilities;

20 (B) flexibility to the Federal Government;
21 and

22 (C) procedures for fair competition; and

23 (2) specifically take into account, as appro-
24 priate per competition, the effect of—

1 (A) contracts or agreements for launch
2 services or launch capability entered into by the
3 Department of Defense with small-class payload
4 space launch providers;

5 (B) the requirements of the Department of
6 Defense, including with respect to launch capa-
7 bilities and pricing data, that are met by such
8 providers;

9 (C) the cost of integrating a satellite onto
10 a launch vehicle;

11 (D) launch performance history (at least
12 three successful launches of the same launch ve-
13 hicle design) and maturity;

14 (E) ability of a launch provider to provide
15 the option of dedicated and rideshare launch ca-
16 pabilities; and

17 (F) any other matters the Secretary con-
18 siders appropriate.

19 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
20 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
21 to the congressional defense committees a report describ-
22 ing a plan for the policy under subsection (a), including
23 with respect to the cost of launches and an assessment
24 of mission risk.

